

THE GUNFIGHTER

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 12



366TH FIGHTER WING, MOUNTAIN HOME AIR FORCE BASE, IDAHO



THE CURRENT
PROJECTED MANDA-
TORY WEAR DATE
FOR THE NEW ABU
IS FISCAL 2011.
THE ONLY THING
THAT NEEDS TO BE
DETERMINED IS IF
PATCHES WILL BE
WORN AND THE AIR
FORCE CHIEF OF
STAFF WILL MAKE
THAT DETERMINA-
TION SOON, SAID
BRIG. GEN. ROBERT
R. ALLARDICE, AIR
FORCE DEPUTY
CHIEF OF STAFF OF
PERSONNEL.

COURTESY PHOTO

ABU finalized, ready for production

BY MASTER SGT.
MITCH GETTLE
AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS

WASHINGTON - The new Airman Battle Uniform is ready for production and will be available in fiscal 2007, said the Air Force deputy chief of staff of personnel.

Many factors were considered in developing the final uniform selection, with the concern for Airmen being at the top of the list, said Brig. Gen. Robert R. Allardice.

"We were looking for a uniform

that would be easier to maintain," he said. "We wanted to provide a uniform that the Airman wouldn't need to spend a lot of out-of-pocket expenses to maintain."

Also, Airmen's feedback throughout the process was beneficial in adding new pockets on the uniform.

"We listened to the Airmen's request where they wanted pockets to hold small tools and when they wear body armor the existing shirt pockets are not accessible or usable," General Allardice said. "It

will have the four pockets on the front of the shirt, and also a small pencil pocket on the left forearm and two pockets on the lower legs. In addition, inside the side pockets and inside of the breast pockets there will be smaller sewn-in pockets to hold small tools, flashlights or cell phones."

The new uniform design is a pixelated tiger stripe with four soft earth tones consisting of tan, grey, green and blue. The ABU will have a permanent crease and will be offered in 50-50 nylon-cotton blend

permanent press fabric eliminating the need for winter and summer weight uniforms.

Will the new ABU need to be starched and pressed?

"Absolutely not," he said. "Our uniform requirement is we want a uniform that you wash, pull it out of the dryer, and wear it. This requirement meets the ease and cost effectiveness needs in maintaining a uniform."

He speaks from personal experience and added that in the long run it will save Airmen money on

dry cleaning costs.

"I tested this uniform. I wash it, take it right out of the dryer and wear it," General Allardice said. "We don't want people putting an iron to it."

The fit of the uniform was also a concern for Airmen.

"Were making them available in more sizes to fit the body better," he said. "We've taken the time to produce more sizes and tailored them for men and women."

Please see ABU, Page 3

Construction begins on Gunfighter Ave.

COURTESY 366TH CES

It's that time of year - the days are getting longer, the temperatures are beginning to warm up, and yes, the asphalt plants are opening. For Gunfighters, that means construction season is just around the corner.

Two major road projects will begin this spring. Both are designed to make your morning commute a safer one. However, as with all construction a little dirt must be moved to get there.

Construction to realign the intersection at Gunfighter Avenue and Aardvark Avenue has begun and will improve traffic flow by widening Gunfighter Avenue, adding a left-turn lane to access Hope Street and providing traffic signals at the Gunfighter Avenue and Chestnut Street intersection.

"As part of the construction, the traffic light was recently moved back away from the intersection," said Earl Claiborne, 366th Civil Engineer Squadron construction inspector.

The 366th CES and the contractors have developed a traffic plan to minimize delays during the planned five-week construction period. Please be aware of potential delays and plan ahead. The following information will help in adjusting driving plans:

- The speed limit will be reduced to 20 MPH in the project area.

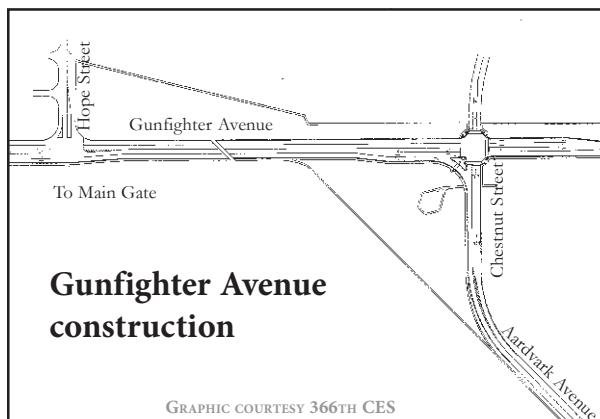
- At least one lane will remain open to both inbound and outbound traffic at all times.

- Two lanes will be available from 6:30 to 8:15 a.m. and 3:30 to 5:15 p.m. for inbound and outbound traffic respectively (i.e. three lanes open during peak traffic times).

- Traffic will be required to travel on gravel roads for approximately five weeks.

Over the summer, construction of the new Grandview Gate will be ongoing. This project will provide a second entry point to the base and should help alleviate the long lines entering the base. The project begins in March and

Please see ROAD, Page 3



GRAPHIC COURTESY 366TH CES

366th MSS commander explains leadership roles

Leadership has different definitions and is exercised in different roles. Traditionally, leadership might best be defined as the ability of a person to influence other people's behavior in order to reach a common goal. This ability to influence others varies from individual to individual and from situation to situation.

Leadership roles inside an organization can be broken down into two basic categories; the formal and the informal leader ...

• Page 2 •

Thrift Savings Plan becomes target of latest phishing scam

Participants, as well as some non-participants, in the Thrift Savings Plan are targets of a "phishing" scam, an official with the board

administering the program said today.

Tom Trabucco, director of external affairs for the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, said phishing is an "attempt to get recipients of the unsolicited e-mail to compromise themselves by giving up their personal financial information."

Thrift Savings Plan administrators would never request personal

or financial information via e-mail, Mr. Trabucco said.

• Page 3 •

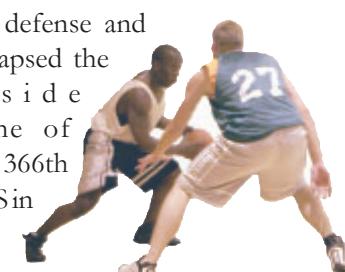
OSS, CES collide in playoffs

The 366th Operations Support Squadron defeated the 336th Civil Engineer Squadron 49-43 in intramural basketball play off competition at the fitness center Tuesday night.

Tony Braddy led the 366th OSS

with 16 points while Jeff Otjen led all scorers with a game high 22 points.

The 366th OSS used a suffocating defense and collapsed the inside game of the 366th CES in



the opening minutes of the game.

• Page 5 •

First CV-22 delivered

A new chapter in Air Force aviation opened March 20 as the first operational CV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft arrived at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

The aircraft was flown from the test wing at Edwards ...

• Page 7 •

WEEKEND WEATHER

Friday: Mostly Cloudy

High: 61 • Low 40



Saturday: Few Showers

High: 54 • Low 32



Sunday: Partly Cloudy

High: 52 • Low 32



Utilizing skills of both formal, informal leaders

BY MAJ. ANNE M. WARNEMENT
366TH MISSION SUPPORT SQUADRON

Leadership has different definitions and is exercised in different roles. Traditionally, leadership might best be defined as the ability of a person to influence other people's behavior in order to reach a common goal. This ability to influence others varies from individual to individual and from situation to situation.

Leadership roles inside an organization can be broken down into two basic categories; the formal and the informal leader. Although the formal leader is most easily identifiable and closely associated with the organization's success it's important to note that both types are important to an organization.

The formal leader closely matches the traditional definition of leadership. The formal leader derives their base from the recognition of official position they hold in their organization. The formal leader is responsible for the advancement of ideas and the refinement and improvement of

processes through their ability to influence, persuade and interact with other people in or outside of their organization. The formal leader is responsible for decision making, morale building, and creating and executing the vision for the organization.

The informal leader receives no official recognition of their position in an organization. Their base is predicated upon the amount of influence they have over other individuals. Informal leaders are normally very talented, skilled and charismatic individuals that cause others to look to them for direction. Such individuals can exert an influence that can reflect on the organization's success. This influence can be positive or negative.

Individuals with a positive impact endeavor to improve the organization. Informal leaders are often at the center of the organization's informal communications network and can keep the leadership (formal leader) informed of the "pulse" of the workforce in a traditional setting.

Informal leaders who are negative in their impact may endeavor to harm the organization and will use

their influence in a destructive manner. As informal leaders tend to be at the center of the organization's informal communications network, they also tend to be at the hub of the "rumor mill" and may seek to undermine leadership in an organization. There may even be attempts to marginalize such individuals.

However, these same people could in fact have huge positive impacts if an investment is made to help them understand how the organization functions and the rationale of leadership. Job performance, disciplinary record and supervisor perceptions can be a good indicator of whether a negative informal leader can be made into a positive informal leader. The best way to do this is by the feedback system. Feedback can be from peers, subordinates and supervisors.

Identifying informal leaders in an organization can be challenging. Not all informal leaders have the same personality and may not be very visible. Identifying cliques in an organization can often pinpoint where the majority of information comes from. Sources within a peer group may help

establish who the informal leaders are and aid in their identification. Lastly, ask other members in the organization who they believe are the informal leaders.

Recognizing and tapping the potential of informal leaders is a great way to identify future leaders in an organization. Verbal communication, respecting the abilities of others, listening skills, appreciating the abilities of others, providing leadership in a group, being active in meetings and displaying sensitivity to feelings of others are all characteristics one should look for in informal leaders and should be fostered to help informal leaders transition to the formal leadership role.

In honing their leadership skills, the informal leader should be given additional responsibilities. In some settings, this can be a promotion or performing a significant additional duty. The acknowledgement of the informal leader's importance to the organization should be displayed in an increased role in decision-making at the lowest level. The technical knowledge of the informal leader

can be utilized in the role of mentor or "troubleshooter." Other responsibilities or roles can center on the informal leader's experience within the organization especially in helping other members navigate the intangible nuances in the organization. Imparting this knowledge to other members in the organization equates to mentorship and is very valuable.

The process of mentoring can be used by an organization to better utilize an informal leader, as well as develop future leaders. Mentoring and utilizing the informal leader as a peer mentor or as the mentor in training can be established. The use of the informal leader as a mentor in training allows the organization to use the skills and abilities the informal leader has learned throughout their career. Benefits from this relationship can be a win-win situation. The informal leader receives organization recognition for their contributions and knowledge while formal leadership benefits from the education of its members that really cannot be placed in a lesson plan.

COMMANDER'S HOTLINE



COL. CHARLES SHUGG

This Hotline is your direct line to me.

It's your opportunity to make Mountain Home Air Force Base a better place to live and work. I review every response to Hotline questions, but functional experts prepare most responses.

If possible, you should first contact the organization responsible for the problem or function. Your first sergeants, commanders and agency chiefs want to help, so please let them try.

If you do not know how to proceed or if you have already tried your chain of command, then do not hesitate to contact the Hotline at 828-6262 or e-mail Commanders-Hotline@mountainhome.af.mil.

Not all Hotlines are published, but if you leave your name and phone number or e-mail address, I will make sure you get a reply.

COL. CHARLES SHUGG
366TH FIGHTER WING
COMMANDER

2005 AWARDS

As of this week

Air Force	13
ACC	53
12th Air Force	10

LAST DUI

366th Comptrollers Squadron

Days without a DUI:

5

AADD made 70 saves in February, and 203 so far this year

(Courtesy of AADD)

THE GUNFIGHTER



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Deadlines: All articles intended for publication in "The Gunfighter" must be submitted to the 366th Fighter Wing, Public Affairs Office, 366 Gunfighter Ave., Bldg. 512, Suite 314, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho 83648, by noon Friday. All submissions will be considered for publication based on news value and timeliness. Every article and photograph will be edited for accuracy, clarity, brevity and appropriateness. All articles will be edited to conform with the AP Stylebook and Libel Manual as stipulated in Air Force Instruction 35-101.

Coverage: Coverage of upcoming events should be arranged in advance by calling the public affairs office at 828-6800 or by sending an electronic message to pa.news@mountainhome.af.mil.

Classified Ads: Free classified advertisements of a noncommercial nature are published in "The Gunfighter" on a space-available basis. Free advertising is limited to Air Force people (active and retired), Department of Defense civilian employees and their family members. Ad forms are available in Bldg. 512. Deadline for free classified advertisements is 5 p.m. Monday.

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Throughout history even women have been POWs

BY CAPT. ERICA RIVERS
391ST FIGHTER SQUADRON

The Military Code of Conduct is a way of life for all members of the military. It's our guidance, should we be captured by the enemy. Many Prisoners of War have displayed great courage and heroism when they were captured.

There have been many POWs in our history and some POWs have women, even before women were allowed into combat. Starting as far back as the Civil War, there were American women who were kept as POWs by their enemy.

Dr. Mary Walker was a doctor for the Union Army who was captured by the Confederacy and held in a prison camp for four months. She was suspected of being a spy for the Union Army.

Belle Boyd was captured by the Union Army and held as a POW after being caught carrying important documents across the line from the South to the North.

Two days after Pearl Harbor was bombed, five Navy nurses in Guam were captured by the Japanese. In 1942, the Japanese moved them to a prison in Japan where they were held until they were repatriated in August of the same year.

A total of 67 Army nurses and 16 Navy nurses were held as prisoners by the Japanese during WWII. Most of these nurses were held at the Santo Tomas Internment camp in Manila.

Lt. Reba Whittle, an Army Air Nurse, was flying in a medical evacuation flight in Europe during WWII when the airplane she was flying in was shot down by the Ger-

mans. Her crew was captured and she was wounded, but she still performed her nursing duties while in the prison camp. She was awarded an Air Medal and a Purple Heart.

Spec. Melissa Rathbun-Nealy was the first women to become a POW during Operation Desert Storm, and the first women missing in war since WWII. Specialist Rathbun-Nealy was driving a heavy equipment transfer vehicle and was captured by Iraqi soldiers in the middle of fighting near the border of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. She was held by the Iraqis for 34 days in solitary confinement.

Maj. Rhonda Cornum, an Army Flight Surgeon, became the second woman POW during Oprtation Desert Storm when the Blackhawk Helicopter she was riding in was shot down. Five of the eight crewmembers were killed and Major Cornum was seriously

injured. She was captured by the Iraqis and held as a POW for eight days. She was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Purple Heart.

There were also two women POWs during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Private First Class Jessica Lynch was captured by the Iraqis out of her humvee and held as a POW for nine days. She was the first POW rescued during Iraqi Freedom.

Army Spec. Shoshana Johnson's convoy was ambushed in the streets of Nasiriyah during Operation Iraqi Freedom. She was beaten and held in captivity for 22 days.

These are just a few of the women who were captured and kept as Prisoners of War by our enemies. In these sad moments of war, these women had shown courage, and thankfully, most of them returned home safely.

Deciding to make transition into Guard, Reserve

BY SENIOR AIRMAN SERGIO AGUIRRE
GUNFIGHTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

While members separating from active duty may be ready to make the change back into civilian life, they may not be ready to walk away from their military service. In those cases where they can't commit to a full-time duty position, the Guard and Reserve are options to turn their active duty service years into a military retirement.

One of the greatest benefits of serving in the Guard and Reserve is flexibility. By making the members' personal life more important than their service commitments, members are able to live a normal civilian life while volunteering to serve when called upon. This provides a valuable service to both state and

federal governments as these members are highly skilled and stay qualified to fill the role of critical positions. Many times they are called upon as a relief valve for active duty commitments where manpower requirements necessitate the need for qualified people in a short amount of time.

As manning levels are tested and active duty members are tasked, critical positions in various locations throughout the world are opened up. Without the volunteers who stand ready to fill in the holes, many of the life-saving missions around the world would simply be unable to operate.

The ongoing war on terror has only increased the need for more volunteers in the Guard and Reserve. While fighting terror is a high priority, humanitarian missions

throughout the world call for qualified members to deploy as well.

While the current forces are seeing a 60-percent total force deployment, these positions are filled by people who volunteer to deploy. These are motivated people who stand ready to serve whenever the opportunity presents itself.

The Guard and Reserve are filled with close-knit units who deploy together and operate on a more cohesive level than their active duty counterparts. This can be a plus for many people considering separating but would like to keep the sense of military community.

Recruiters from both the Guard and Reserve say their primary focus when interviewing potential volunteers is fit. They explain that making sure each new member is happy not only makes their job easier as recruiters but also helps their fellow unit members who serve along side the new recruits.

The Guard and Reserve also offers tuition assistance that varies by state, while also offering additional Montgomery G.I. Bill funds for college. Members can serve while going to college full time. This option bodes well for those who need a little extra cash but can't commit to a full-time job while seeking a degree program full time.

Whether you're looking for a part-time job while going to college, keeping your options open after leaving active duty or planning to seek a military retirement, the Guard and Reserve can offer you the chance to find a fit that suits you.

For more information about Guard and Reserve opportunities, call Master Sgt. Steven Ewert, base Reserve recruiter, at 828-6053.

Congratulations to the following Gunfighters who scored a 90 percent or better on their CDC's



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS SAMUEL SELLS,
366TH CES

Not pictured due to deployments:

AIRMAN JOSHUA DERCO,
366TH CES

STAFF SGT. JOHN HEALEY,
366TH CES



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS ANDREA LAY,
366TH CONS

C-17s would help USAFE's air mobility business

By LOUIS A. ARANA-BARRADAS
AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany - As the need grows for more Air Force transports to move cargo and troops to Iraq and Afghanistan, U.S. Air Forces in Europe is feeling the pinch.

Today, most Air Force airlift missions support military operations in the two countries, said Col. Phil Bossert, commander of 16th Air Force's air mobility operations control center at this busy airlift hub.

Most missions executed through the U.S. Central Command Air Forces combined air operations center are air mobility missions, he said. The airlift missions "normally outnumber kinetic missions - sometimes by as much as two to one."

"This is very much a mobility war," he said. "Airlift is definitely big business."

But airlift is big business at Ramstein, too. USAFE, which has its headquarters here, has its own growing airlift needs as it transforms and expands its operations south and east. The colonel said it needs a squadron of new transport aircraft to keep pace with its airlift requirements.

"No doubt about it, we need C-17 (Globemaster IIIIs)," he said. The Globemasters would boost the command's fleet of airlift aircraft.

The colonel said 90 to 95 percent of the command's daily operational missions in its area of responsibility - which stretches from northern Europe to southern Africa and parts of the Middle East - are mobility missions.

"With the global war on terrorism, business here is very, very good," Colonel Bossert said.

But there is little airlift to spare, and so the command relies on an aging fleet of 52 aircraft. From its underground home, the AMOCC tries to match the command's daily airlift requirements to its available aircraft.

Colonel Bossert said sometimes that is not possible. One reason is the command has "a significant number of problems" with the wear of the center wing box of its C-130E Hercules. This caused the command to ground some of its Hercules since last July. And more will be restricted in the next few years.

"We could really use a squadron of C-17s - especially with the long distances we're flying to Africa," Colonel Bossert said. "The C-17 is ideal for landing in austere airfields in Africa."

But for now, the only C-17 Globemaster IIIs in Europe belong to Air Mobility Command. Some fly out of Ramstein and a desert base. Their main focus is getting cargo from the United States to Iraq and Afghanistan and air-evacuating wounded troops to hospitals in Germany and elsewhere.

The command has had to rely on a rotating squadron of Reserve and Guard C-130s to help pick up the airlift slack. But when it had to ground some of its own "Hercs," the Reserve and Guard could not keep pace with the demand, the colonel said.

As a result, the command could not support 145 missions from July through February, Colonel Bossert said.

He said the C-130s are hard-pressed to meet the requirements of the command's many contingency missions - it had 34 in the past 18 months. An example is the airlift support provided to U.N. operations in Sudan's Darfur region. It took several Hercules to do the job.

"One C-17 would have saved us from using four C-130s," Colonel Bossert said. "And that one C-17 could have done in one week what the four C-130s did in about two and half weeks."

As the command and U.S. Army Europe continue to streamline and transform, the need for airlift will grow. When the Army starts rotating Stryker brigades to bases in Germany and other parts of Europe, like Romania and Bulgaria, C-17s will be required for airlift, he said.

"It's impractical to rotate battalion- or brigade-size units using C-130s," he said.

A squadron of C-17s - no matter where based - would also help the command's air

evacuation mission. One thing it does now is to put medical teams on transiting Globemasters. On March 20, a C-17 flew 16 patients from Balad Air Base, Iraq, to Ramstein. The mission was a milestone for the transport, which surpassed its 1 millionth hour mark on the Ramstein leg of the flight.

Nurse Maj. David Ball - a Mississippi guardsman recalled to active duty - was the medical crew director on the historic flight. He prefers the Globemaster for such missions because it is "very friendly for air medical evacuation."

"It's a wonderful airframe," the major said. "The lighting, the temperature, the oxygen and the ability we have to set up stanchions (is great). And you can plug directly into the wall for electricity."

Major Ball, who has flown on the C-17 since it joined the Air Force inventory, said the aircraft is "the most versatile air medical evacuation platform available."

Colonel Bossert said having even just a few C-17s would allow the command to provide better air evacuations - and all types of airlift in general. It would make the command more responsive to airlift needs.

"Having a squadron of C-17s - just a small squadron of six tails - would have an enormous and positive impact on this AOR," the colonel said.

NEWSLINE

PSD briefings

The 366th Mission Support Squadron will hold briefings Tuesday and Wednesday at 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the base theatre about the new personnel service delivery transformation.

For more information, call 1st Lt. Alan Condor at 828-4007.

Basket and Pottery Bingo

The Officers Spouses Club is hosting a Basket and Pottery Bingo April 11 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Gunfighters Club. Everyone will receive one free bingo card with purchase of the dinner and one free card if a canned food is brought. Additional cards are \$1 each, limit of four cards. The menu will include chicken cordon bleu, a fresco garden salad, Oriental blend vegetables and rice pilaf. The cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers. To RSVP, call Diana Champion at 587-2205 by April 5.

AFAF golf tournament

The Air Force Assistance Fund golf tournament is April 7 at Silver Sage Golf Course. The four-man tournament begins at 11:30 a.m. The cost of the tournament is \$120 per team. The entry fee includes 18 holes of golf, four meal tickets for the barbecue after the tournament, a golf cart and four tickets for drinks.

To register, call Capt. Jennifer Hillberg at 828-7113.

Summer hire positions available

Summer hire positions are now being advertised for Air Force bases throughout the United States. All applications are submitted through <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afjobs>. Positions are for part-time (20 hours per week). To qualify for summer hire positions the applicant must be at least 16 years of age, and be enrolled (or accepted for enrollment) as degree seeking students taking at least a half-time academic, technical, or vocational course load in an accredited high school, technical, vocational, 2 or 4 year college or university, graduate or professional school. The cutoff date to apply is March 31.

For more information, call Christine Armstrong at 828-6929.

School bus stop safety

Be aware of the school bus stop on Airbase Road just past the train tracks while driving to Mountain Home. As a reminder, drivers are required to stop when the school bus red lights are flashing; signifying children are getting on or off the bus. On a four-lane highway, only traffic going in the same direction as the bus must stop. Children are picked up around 6:55 a.m. and dropped off between 4:25 and 4:35 p.m. depending on the weather conditions.

MINE SENSORS

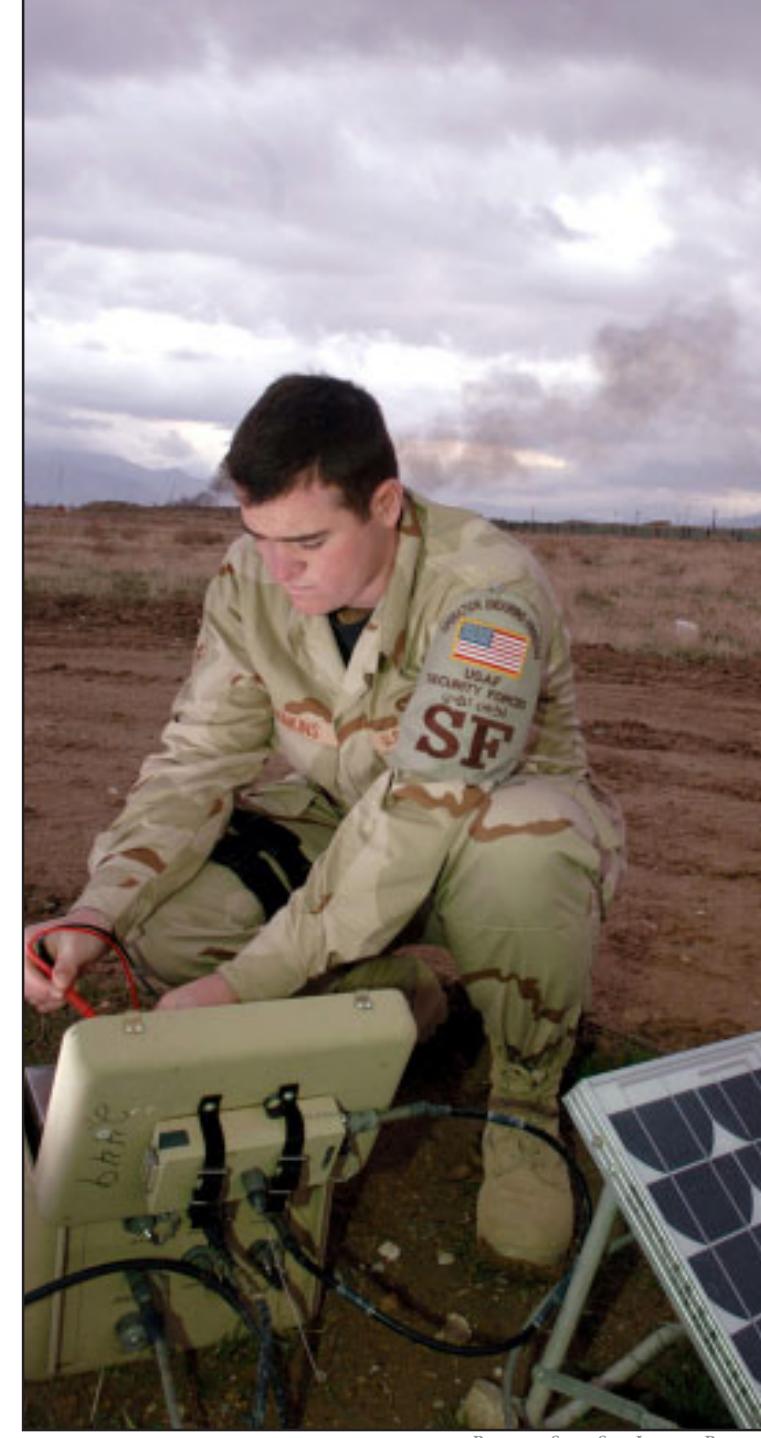


PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. JENNIFER REDENTE
AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JUSTIN JENKINS CHECKS THE POWER OF THE RESERVE BATTERY MODULE FOR LAND MINE SENSORS NEAR THE FLIGHTLINE AT BAGRAM AIR BASE, AFGHANISTAN. AIRMAN JENKINS IS ASSIGNED TO THE 455TH EXPEDITIONARY SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON AS THE TACTICAL AUTOMATED SECURITY SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR.

'Phishing' scam targets TSP

By SAMANTHA L. QUIGLEY
AMERICAN FORCES
PRESS SERVICE

WASHINGTON - Participants, as well as some non-participants, in the Thrift Savings Plan are targets of a "phishing" scam, an official with the board administering the program said today.

Tom Trabucco, director of external affairs for the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, said phishing is an "attempt to get recipients of the unsolicited e-mail to compromise themselves by giving up their personal financial information."

Thrift Savings Plan administrators would never request personal or financial information via e-mail, Mr. Trabucco said.

"Do not respond to unsolicited

e-mail, and never give out information of a personal nature (through) unsolicited e-mails," he said.

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board alerted Thrift Savings Plan coordinators to the scam in a March 17 memo, the day after the scam was discovered. The memo described it as an unsolicited e-mail with a link to a bogus Web site appearing to be the thrift plan's account-access site.

The bogus site asks for a recipient's social security and Thrift Savings Plan personal identification numbers. Entering this information takes the user to another screen where they are asked for financial information, including a credit card number, he said, adding that this information can be used to steal an individual's identity.

As long as participants have not

responded to this scam e-mail, their accounts have not been compromised, investment board officials wrote in the memo. Those who did respond should contact their financial institutions immediately for guidance. They should also call the Thrift Savings Plan at (877) 968-3778 and ask to have their account access blocked, according to the memo.

Participants are encouraged not to attempt to access their accounts by clicking links offered in any e-mail, according to the memo. Only by opening a new Internet browser and typing the Thrift Savings Plan's Web site into the address field can a participant be sure of accessing the authentic thrift plan Web site.

Officials don't know how many plan participants the scam has affected, but the FBI is investigating.

will be sewn on using a matching tan color thread.

- The ABU adopts the battle dress uniform hat style for primary use and the floppy hat design will be used in some deployed areas.

"This is the uniform of the future," General Allardice said. "Eventually when enough of these uniforms are manufactured, we will phase out the BDU and desert combat uniforms."

The current projected mandatory wear date for the new ABU is fiscal 2011.

The only thing that needs to be determined is if patches will be worn and the Air Force chief of staff will make that determination soon, General Allardice said.

The word color for the name, U.S. Air Force, and rank is midnight blue; nametapes and rank insignia background will be tan and

ROAD

- Continued from Page 1

should be completed in August.

The 366th CES is working with the Idaho State Transportation Department and will provide turn lanes off of Grandview Highway approximately two miles from the Grandview intersection.

According to Lt. Col. Ben Wham, 366th CES commander, there is never an easy time to perform construction in an area that affects so many people, but the Gunfighter CES team is committed to making this project run smoothly.

Eating right and being physically active are keys to a healthy lifestyle.

- Make smart choices from every food group. Give the body the balanced nutrition it needs by eating a variety of nutrient-packed foods every day. Just be sure to stay within daily calorie needs.

- Get the most nutrition out of calories. Choose the most nutritionally rich foods from each food group - those packed with vitamins, minerals, fiber and other nutrients but lower in calories.

- Find a balance between food and physical activity. Regular physical activity is important for overall health and fitness plus it helps control body weight, promotes a feeling of well-being and reduces the risk of chronic diseases.

- Play it safe with foods. Prepare, handle and store food properly to keep everyone in the household safe.

For more information about the HAWC and nutritional programs, call Yvonne Tapper-Gardzina at 828-4008.

(Some information taken from The American Dietetic Association)

Some other ABU accessory items:

- A tan T-shirt will be worn; Airmen will be required to maintain one tan T-shirt with an Air Force logo on the front and Air Force written on the back.

- Suede cowhide boots in matching green-gray color; like the desert boot these will be polish-free and available in men's and women's sizes.

- The word color for the name, U.S. Air Force, and rank is midnight blue; nametapes and rank insignia background will be tan and

will be sewn on using a matching tan color thread.

- The ABU adopts the battle dress uniform hat style for primary use and the floppy hat design will be used in some deployed areas.

"This is the uniform of the future," General Allardice said. "Eventually when enough of these uniforms are manufactured, we will phase out the BDU and desert combat uniforms."

The current projected mandatory wear date for the new ABU is fiscal 2011.

- Play it safe with foods. Prepare, handle and store food properly to keep everyone in the household safe.

For more information about the HAWC and nutritional programs, call Yvonne Tapper-Gardzina at 828-4008.

(Some information taken from The American Dietetic Association)

ABU

- Continued from Page 1

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NUTRITION

- Continued from Page 1

The Gunfighter Club and Pizza Etc. offer side salads as substitution for French fries," said Ms. Tapper-Gardzina. "The commissary has ready-to-order sandwiches, and tossing in an apple can help make it a healthy meal. The Wagon Wheel offers a salad bar, grilled chicken and fruit. Finally, bringing foods and snacks from home may be the healthiest alternative, although it takes some planning ahead."

In addition to the HAWC, the American Dietetic Association is another source of nutritional guidance and focuses attention on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound physical activity habits.

The ADA has developed National Nutrition Month key messages to eat smart and stay physically active this month and all year long:

- The food and physical activity choices made today - and every day - affect health and how people feel today and in the future.

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GUIDE TO HEALTHY EATING

GRAINS	VEGETABLES	FRUITS	MILK	MEATS & BEANS
Make half your grains whole	Vary your vegetables	Focus on fruits	Get your calcium-rich foods	Go lean with protein
Eat at least 3 oz. of whole grain cereals, breads, crackers, rice or pasta every day	Eat more dark-green veggies like broccoli, spinach and other dark leafy greens.	Eat a variety of fruit. Choose fresh, frozen, canned or dried fruit.	Go low-fat or fat-free when you choose milk, yogurt and other milk products.	Choose low-fat or lean meats and poultry.
One oz. is about one slice of bread, about one cup of breakfast cereal or half a cup of cooked rice, cereal or pasta.	Eat more orange vegetables like carrots and sweet potatoes.			

SERVICES

Auto skills center

Contract mechanic and paint and body tech — Work is done by appointment only. There are now two mechanics on staff to better serve the Gunfighters. To make an appointment, call 828-2295.

Bowling center

Monte Carlo — March 31 at 10:30 p.m. Bowl for \$10.

Family special — Bowl for \$1 a game every Sunday.

For more information, call 828-6329.

Community center

Instructors needed — The community center is looking for experienced instructors for crafts, dance, music, cooking, interior decorating, self defense, sewing, quilting, cake decorating and stamping.

Photography classes — Tuesday and Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. The cost is \$30 for eight sessions.

Salsa classes — Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. The cost is \$25 for five sessions.

Spanish classes — Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$30 for eight sessions.

Dog obedience class — Saturday from 10 to 11 a.m. The cost is \$35 for four sessions.

For more information, call 828-2246.

Youth programs

Gymnastics instructor — Youth programs is looking for an experienced gymnastics instructor.

For more information, call 828-2501.

Outdoor adventure program

Come to the outdoor adventure program building (Building 2800 across from the youth center) to get a calendar to help plan all outdoor adventures.

For more information, call 828-6333.

Outdoor recreation supply

Video rentals — Video rentals are available for sportsmen's needs. Weekend rentals are \$1, day rates are \$0.75 and additional days are \$0.50.

Sportsman camp trailer special — Camp trailers can be reserved on the first working day of the month and may be reserved for the following month. Prices are \$60 per weekend, \$45 over night and \$15 each additional day.

For more information, call 828-2237.

Library

March book adventure — Historical fiction. Come see what exciting historical fiction adventures you can get lost in.

Wireless Internet — Bring in a laptop computer and access free wireless Internet from inside the library or from the Pony Espresso Café.

Multimedia center — Features color copier, scanner and photo printing.

Story time — Wednesdays at 1 p.m. for supervised children ages 3 to 5.

Pony Espresso Café — Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. They serve a variety of coffee drinks, smoothies and pastries.

Video club — Members pay \$12 per year and can borrow up to three videos at a time for a one-week rental.

For more information, call 828-2326.

Pizza Etc.

March special — Fish sandwich, fries or tots, and a 24-ounce soda for \$6.

Soup of the day

Monday — Chicken gumbo

Tuesday — Chicken and dumplings

Wednesday — Creamy potato with bacon

Thursday — Cream of broccoli

Friday — Clam chowder

Gunfighters Club

Gunfighters night buffet

Wednesday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Dinner is a members only benefit. \$3.66 for adults and \$1.80 for children under 12.

Cook your own steak or chicken

Thursday from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. \$3.95 for club members.

Swimming Pool

Hydrobics — Available Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m. The cost is \$20 per month or \$2 per session. All ages are invited to participate.

Silver Sage Golf Course

April "Ringer" Tournament

Silver Sage Golf Course will conduct a month long "Ringer" tournament. Participants must play one 18-hole round per week with a fellow competitor. Participants will make their hole-by-hole gross scores each week on the provided score sheet. The players' total score will be a combination of their best scores on each hole throughout the four rounds of the competition. Sign up by Tuesday.

Marketing

Check us out on the web—www.MHAFBFun.com. Get club coupons and stay up to date on exciting Services events.

CHAPEL

Catholic

Sunday mass — 8 a.m.

CCD Sunday — 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. for 3 year olds to adults; located in the Religious Education Building.

Daily mass — Wednesday at 11:30 a.m.

Protestant

Sunday school — 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. for 6 month olds to adults; located in the Religious Education Building.

Traditional service

Sunday at 11 a.m. Also provided at this time are a

children's church for 4 year olds to second grade and Wee Joy for 6 months to 5 years.

Jubilee Full Gospel Baptist Service — Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

Protestant extras — Protestant Women of the Chapel meets Wednesday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Religious Education Building.

WELLNESS

Anger management

Unmanaged anger destroys relationships, families and individual health. Learn to understand and control responses to anger. Must attend four consecutive weeks to receive a certificate. The class is held Wednesdays from 3 to 4 p.m. at family advocacy. To register, call 828-7520.

English as a Second Language

Learn English through the four language skills of reading, speaking, listening and writing in a friendly, informal setting. Class is held Tuesdays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the family support center. To register, call 828-2458.

Credit when credit is due

This six-week course helps individuals gain a basic understanding of money issues and their responsibilities revolving around the world of credit. Individuals who successfully complete the course can become better risks in the eyes of lenders and should be better prepared to handle their personal finances in the future. The class will be held every Tuesday from 5 to 7 p.m. starting April 4 at the family support center. To register, call 828-2458.

Parenting with 1-2-3 Magic

Learn how to handle difficult behavior, encourage good behavior, and manage the inevitable sidetrack of testing and manipulation of children age 2 to 12 years old with some simple, precise and effective methods. The class will be held April 6 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the family support center. To register, call 828-2458.

EDUCATION NEWS

Community College of the Air Force

This is a two-year, federally chartered and regionally accredited degree granting institution. CCAF improves the technical, managerial and related skills of NCOs. It also combines all your military and civilian credit into a AFSC-related degree. Request CCAF transcripts through the AFVEC link on the Air Force Portal at <https://my.af.mil/afvecprod>; click on Self Service Tab; select CCAF Degree Progress Report; click on Degree Program title and it will bring up the Progress Report.

Spouse Scholarship

The National Military Family Association's Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarships are awarded to spouses of uniformed service members to obtain professional certification or to attend undergraduate or graduate school. Scholarships are normally in the amount of \$1,000. To be considered, the application must be completed by April 15. Go to http://www.nmfa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=Spouse_Scholarship for more information.

Boise State University

Registration is now taking place for Spring block II. The Spring II semester begins on April 3. For more information, call the local BSU office at 828-6746, stop by, or visit www.boisestate.edu. The local office is located in room 213 of the base training and education center.

The University of Oklahoma

The first class of the summer semester will be Public Budgeting and Finance. This is a required class in the Master of Public Administration program. This class is scheduled May 7 to 13 and the last day to enroll is April 13. Visit the University of Oklahoma's Web site at www.goou.edu for a complete list of programs and classes. The MPA program is open to everyone. For more information, call the OU site manager at 828-4188 or stop by the education services center.

VIPER VISITS



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN SERGIO AGUIRRE

VIPER HELPS SERVICES SAM REVIEW THIS MONTH'S EDITION OF THE TIMEOUT. THE 366TH SERVICES SQUADRON MARKETING DEPARTMENT PUTS THE TIMEOUT OUT ON A MONTHLY BASIS AS A SUPPLEMENT TO THE GUNFIGHTER.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE VIPER TO VISIT YOUR SHOP, CALL THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE AT 828-6800 OR SEND AN E-MAIL TO PA.NEWS@MOUNTAINHOME.AF.MIL.

Park University

The park University office has new hours. They are now open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come by and meet the new staff members: Amy Blevins and Lisa Cameron. For more information, call 832-4535.

HOUSING NEWS

Compost pick up

The pick up of compost in the housing areas began Monday. Compost will be picked up the same day as the trash. Compost cannot be out at the curb no earlier than 6 p.m. the day before the pick up and no later than 7 a.m. the day of pick up. Compost must be in approved paper bags.

Pet complaints

Complaints involving pets barking and running loose, plus owners who don't remove pet waste from their yards and common areas are on the rise. In order to maintain a quiet, clean and safe environment for base housing residents, we need the help of not only the pet owners, but those individuals who witness violators. Pet owners must follow these rules:

Pets must be confined at their residence by having them chained, fenced, penned or exercised under the immediate owner's control (leash). Owners may exercise their animals off leash in open areas (parks, desert, etc) if under positive voice control of a responsible individual.

Pets are to be adequately housed, fed and watered. Clean up of pet feces is a daily task. Pets must be registered with the base veterinarian office.

Family households on-base are limited to two pets (cats and/or dogs). Approval for more than two pets must be obtained in writing through the housing office from the 366th Mission Support Group commander. Wild or exotic animals, such as snakes, ferrets, etc., are not allowed in base housing.

Stray animals should be reported to the 366th Security Forces Squadron at 828-2256. The charge for retrieving a pet from security police is \$25 for the first day and \$25 for each additional day, not to exceed \$100.

During normal duty hours, call the housing office at 828-2781 to take care of pet nuisances. After duty hours, call the 366th SFS at 828-2256 to report all animal related incidents and complaints.

For more information, refer to MHAFB Instruction 31-202, Control of Animals.

OUTSIDE THE GATES

Flower and garden show

The Centre on the Grove will spring to life with everything you need to make your garden beautiful at the 10th annual U.S. Bank Boise Flower and Garden Show held today through Sunday.

Shop for the latest in landscape design, garden art and decor, yard furniture, plants, decks, greenhouse, and more. You will also enjoy spectacular display gardens; educational and fun gardening seminars; orchid and bonsai displays; a silent auction of beautiful and unique container gardens; a display of new varieties of annuals and exotic plants; and much, much more.

Western Idaho Fly Fishing Expo

The expo will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the DoubleTree Hotel Riverside, located at 2900 Chinden Blvd. in Garden City. For more information, call 465-5352.

Train show

This show is the successor to the Great American Train Show and the Great Western Train Show. It is promoted by Hobbies Unlimited. The show is sponsored in over 40 venues primarily in the West, South and Midwest areas of the country. It features model railroad dealers, operating model railroads and workshops. The show is Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Western Idaho State Fairgrounds north expo, located at 5610 Glenwood in Boise.

THE BIG SCREEN

Today — Annapolis — PG-13 — 7 p.m. — starring James Franco and Jordana Brewster.

A young man from the wrong side of the tracks has his dream come true when he is accepted to the Naval Academy. But once there he is not sure he measures up against the best and the brightest. 1 hour, 23 minutes.

Saturday and Sunday — When a Stranger Calls — PG-13 — 7 p.m. — starring Camilla Belle and

A young woman is terrorized by a stranger who calls her, asking "have you checked the children lately?" The police eventually notify her the calls are coming from inside the house. 1 hour, 23 minutes.

Monday — Final Destination 3 — R — 7 p.m. — starring Mary Elizabeth Winstead and Ryan Merriman.

When a high school fails to stop the fated roller coaster ride that she predicted would cause the deaths of several of her friends, she teams with a schoolmate, in a race against time to prevent the Grim Reaper from revisiting the survivors of the first tragedy. 1 hour, 22 minutes.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday — Theater closed.

Friday — Final Destination 3 — R — 7 p.m. — starring Mary Elizabeth Winstead and Ryan Merriman.

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OSS, CES battle in intramural basketball playoffs

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY SENIOR AIRMAN
BRIAN STIVES
GUNFIGHTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 366th Operations Support Squadron defeated the 366th Civil Engineer Squadron 49 - 43 in intramural basketball play off competition at the fitness center Tuesday night.

Tony Braddy led the 366th OSS with 16 points while Jeff Otjen led all scorers with a game high 22 points.

The 366th OSS used a suffocating defense and collapsed the inside game of the 366th CES in the opening minutes of the game. On the other side of the court, OSS

was pressing the ball up the court when they got a turnover or grabbed a defensive board – jumping out to a quick 19 - 8 lead. With 6:41 left on the clock, CES slowly began lifting the boa constrictor-like grip OSS was applying on defense and began scratching and clawing their way back into the game. Miguel Sandoval, CES, hit two free throws with 3:30 left in the half to get CES within four points of OSS. With the sense that their prey may get away, OSS returned to the stranglehold they held on the CES defense and went on a 8 - 1 run to end the half, giving them a 28 - 17 lead at halftime.

"We need to continue to push it (the ball) up the court," said Alejandro Ortiz, 366th OSS coach, during halftime. "We also need to continue to play tight defense and get some better passes inside."

On the other side of the court, the 366th CES coach was thinking of a way to keep OSS from pushing the ball up the court.

"With a team that is as aggressive as they (OSS) are playing, you need to take the ball right at them," said Steve Elliot. "We need to shoot the ball better and hope they start making mistakes by being so aggressive on both ends of

the court."

The second half looked like two completely different teams were out on the court. After CES hit a three to start the game, neither team could make a shot from the field. Over the next 7:50, the only points scored for either team were from the charity stripe. OSS still hung on to the lead, however after Jeff Otjen finally made the second field goal of the game, OSS led by one point. OSS then went on a quick 7 - 1 scoring run, however CES answered back. Sandoval hit nothing but net from the top of the key for CES with 4:48 left and CES was back in the game again, trailing 38 - 37. With 3:11 left and OSS still clinging to their one point lead, Ty Bare, OSS, stole the ball and was in front of the pack going to toward the basket. As he went for the ESPN top-10 plays of the day dunk, the rim had other plans. With the ball high above the basket and nobody in his way to stop him, he hit the ball off the back of the rim and held on to the rim – causing the technical foul call and getting him kicked out of the game. More importantly, it sent CES to the free throw line and then gave them back the ball. Otjen hit one of the free throws, tying the game. On the inbounds pass, Otjen was once again the go-to man, nailing a three from the top of the key and giving CES their first lead of the game since they led 2 - 0 to start the game. Both teams traded baskets over the next 1:36 until the game was tied at 43 with 15 seconds left on the clock. CES held the ball and was driving down the court to take the win when Jessica Otjen sent up a shot with one second left. The ball bounced off the front of the rim, then the back and rolled out, sending the game to overtime.

After allowing both teams some time to catch their breaths during the next break, OSS once again placed a death grip on the pulse of the CES offense. OSS scored the only points of the overtime, taking the 49 - 43 win and sending CES home.

GAME STATS:

OSS: Tony Braddy, 16 pts.; Alejandro Ortiz, 14 pts.; Jeff Thompson, 8 pts.; Tyson Small, 4 pts.; Garrett McClinton, 3 pts.; and Ty Bare, 2 pts.

CES: Jeff Otjen, 22 pts.; Miguel Sandoval, 5 pts.; and Jason Pflum, 2 pts.



ZACK ALBRIGHT (8), 366TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON, BLOCKS TONY BRADDY'S (31), 366TH OPERATIONS SUPPORT SQUADRON, SHOT DURING THE GAME TUESDAY NIGHT. OSS DEFEATED CES 49 - 43 IN OVERTIME IN THE PLAYOFF GAME.



JEFF OTJEN, CES, GETS THE EASY LAYUP AFTER CUTTING THROUGH THE DEFENSE FROM GARRETT MCCLINTON (11) AND ALEJANDRO ORTIZ, OSS. OTJEN SCORED A GAME-HIGH 22 POINTS.

Former Air Force Falcon named on ballot for College Football Hall of Fame

AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. - Former Air Force great Chad Hennings is on the ballot for induction into the College Football Hall of Fame. Hennings is one of 77 players and seven coaches listed on the 2006 ballot by the National Football Foundation.

Hennings joins Randall Cunningham (University of Nevada at Las Vegas), Ahmad Rashad (University of Oregon), Bruce Smith (Virginia Tech) and Emmitt Smith (University of Florida) as players on the ballot for the first time.

A unanimous first-team All-American, Hennings won the Outland Trophy in 1987 as the nation's top lineman. He led the nation with 24 sacks that season. He was the Western Athletic Conference Defensive Player of the Year in 1987 and was named to the WAC All-Decade Team for the 1980's.

Hennings was also a two-time Academic All-American and was inducted into the Academic All-American Hall of Fame in 1998.

After graduation from the academy, he served four years in the Air Force and was an A-10 Thunderbolt II pilot during the Gulf War in 1991.

Hennings joined the Dallas Cowboys in 1992 and played nine years in the NFL, winning three Super Bowl rings with the Cowboys. He has been inducted into the Iowa High School Football Hall of Fame, the National High School Hall of Fame, the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame and the Colorado Springs Sports Hall of Fame.

Of the 4.4 million individuals who have played college football, only 796 have earned induction into the College Football Hall of Fame. The ballot was mailed to more than 12,000 NFF members whose votes will be tabulated and submitted to the NFF's Honor Court.

The Hall of Fame Class will be

announced at a press conference in New York City May 16. The class will be inducted at the National Football Foundation's 49th Awards Dinner on Dec. 5 in New York City. They will be officially enshrined at the hall in South Bend, Ind., in the summer of 2007.

To be eligible for the ballot, players must have been named a first-team All-American by a major/national selector and utilized by the NCAA for their consensus All-America teams, played their last year of intercollegiate football at least 10 years prior, played within the last 50 years and be retired from professional football.



For more information, call 828-6329.

Ads

New satellite enhances support to warfighter

By MICHAEL P. KLEIMAN
SPACE VEHICLES DIRECTORATE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. - In the battle environment, every second counts, and accelerated (within 10 minutes) information downloaded to the joint warfighter, to be demonstrated in the upcoming TacSat-3 mission, could result in victory, but more importantly, in lives saved.

Planned to launch in summer 2007, the TacSat-3 satellite, the collaborative effort will feature an onboard processor that provides real-time data to the combatant commander in the theater.

"TacSat-3 is a team effort. Part-

ners include the Army Space and Missile Defense Command, Air Force Space Command, the Department of Defense's Office of Force Transformation, Office of Naval Research and the Air Force Research Laboratory," said Thom Davis, TacSat-3 program manager, AFRL's Space Vehicles Directorate here.

Originating in 2004 as part of the Responsive Space initiative, which addressed the military's need for responsive, flexible and affordable systems operating in space, the satellite will consist of three distinct payloads: the ARTEMIS hyperspectral imager (HSI); the Ocean Data Telemetry Microsatellite Link (ODTML); and the Space Avionics Experi-

ment (SAE).

Serving as the mission's primary experiment, the hyperspectral imager, developed by Raytheon Company, will rapidly supply target detection and identification data, as well as initial preparation of the battlefield (disturbed earth) and battle damage assessment information requirements. In addition, a secondary payload provided by the Office of Naval Research will communicate information quickly to the warfighter.

The Ocean Data Telemetry Microsatellite Link will collect data from sea-based buoys and then transmit the information to a ground station. The SAE, designed and advanced at the Space

Vehicles Directorate, will involve integrating the payload and spacecraft structure employing reprogrammable components.

Finally, through the work of the DOD's Office of Force Transformation, the small satellite, weighing less than 880 pounds, will include a standardized modular bus, which will be tested for its adaptability for use on future TacSat missions.

"The idea for responsive space came out of the requirements addressed by Air Force senior leaders that the combatant commander needed the ability to replenish and quickly augment current on-orbit capabilities," said the TacSat-3 program manager. "As a result of this need, the dem-

onstrations featured on TacSat-3 will allow us to fly over the area of interest and provide the warfighter with real-time data."

The \$50 million program has accomplished all key milestones to date, but the next several months will be critical in meeting the aggressive launch schedule. By early 2007, all three payloads will be moved to the Space Vehicles Directorate's Aerospace Engineering Facility for integration with modular bus and system-level testing.

While this process typically takes several months, the TacSat-3 program's goal is to complete all activities within 60 days. The satellite will then be shipped to the launch site and mated with the

launch vehicle, which, at this point, has to be determined.

Serving as a key team member in the TacSat-3 project, the Space and Missile Systems Center's Detachment 12, also located at Kirtland AFB, has been reviewing possible responsive and affordable liftoff options such as the joint Air Force and Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency's Force Application and Launch from Continental United States system, as well as the Space Exploration Technologies Corp.'s Falcon 1 rocket.

In addition, Det. 12 will assist with mission operations during TacSat-3's planned, one-year flight in low earth orbit at approximately 400 kilometers.

Ads



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. MARKUS MAIER

THE AIR FORCE'S FIRST OPERATIONAL CV-22 OSPREY TILT-ROTOR AIRCRAFT HOVERS UPON ARRIVAL AT KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M., MONDAY. THE AIRCRAFT WILL BE FLOWN BY AIRMEN WITH THE 58TH SPECIAL OPERATIONS WING TO TRAIN FUTURE OSPREY PILOTS.

CV-22 delivered to Air Force

AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. - A new chapter in Air Force aviation opened March 20 as the first operational CV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft arrived here.

The aircraft was flown from the test wing at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., by Lt. Gen. Michael W. Wooley, commander of Air Force Special Operations Command, to the 58th Special Operations Wing at Kirtland. The 58th provides advanced training to special operations pilots and crews.

The CV-22 Osprey is a

special operations variant of the MV-22, currently used by the Marines. The aircraft has the unique ability to takeoff, land and hover like a helicopter, and it can tilt its propellers to fly like a conventional, prop-driven aircraft.

"The CV-22 has the capability to fly at turboprop speeds like a C-130 (Hercules), pull into helicopter mode and land like an MH-53J/M Pave Low," General Wooley said. "This is truly transformational for Air Force Special Operations Command."

This dual capability gives the CV-22 extended range, speed and versatility over any other AFSOC aircraft. The

extended range and speed will allow the Air Force to conduct long-range infiltration and exfiltration missions. The CV-22 and MV-22 are very similar, with differences existing mainly in the avionics needed for special operations missions.

The 58th SOW is scheduled to receive four CV-22s by the end of June. The first operational CV-22 unit will operate out of Hurlburt Field, Fla., starting in 2007.

The initial pilot training includes 400 hours of interactive computer-based training, 60 simulator hours and 40 flying hours in the MV-22 version of the Osprey. This will be followed by CV-

22 mission-specific training for AFSOC pilots and flight engineers at Kirtland.

Through the use of live-fire testing, the Osprey has proven to be four to eight times less vulnerable to enemy fire than current aircraft. It is 75 percent quieter, can fly higher and has one-tenth the infrared signature compared to most rotary aircraft. The CV-22 currently costs \$89.1 million. However, cost reduction initiatives and a multi-year procurement contract is expected to significantly reduce that price.

The Air Force plans on buying 50 CV-22s from now until 2017.

Ads